



Sault College News Release
For immediate release

It's no secret that the Masons love our students!

Masonic Foundation of Ontario donates \$25,000

(Sault Ste. Marie, ON March 4, 2016) –The Masonic Foundation of Ontario has graciously donated \$25,000 towards a new award in the Sault College Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards (SBA) program at the College.

The purpose of this generous gift is to support an annual award for a full-time student enrolled in the last year of his/her program who has encountered unforeseen financial difficulties. The student must also have strong academic success with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. Specific eligibility criteria will be posted on the SBA page on our website, and students will be encouraged to apply for this bursary during the annual SBA application period each fall.

“If a student is facing an unforeseen economic burden, it’s comforting to know that awards like this exist. This award helps ensure our students’ success by giving them support to see them complete their program. Often students are faced with the difficult choice of dropping out of school because an economic event blocks their path. Our community’s and our students’ future are brightened with awards like this”, says Laurie Burrows, Director of Enrolment and Financial Services.

“In 2013 the Masonic Foundation approved the establishment of endowed bursary funds in each of the community colleges within the Province. This program is funded at the rate of \$100,000 per year for ten years. Each year four colleges are chosen, geographically selected within the Province, until a Masonic Foundation of Ontario Endowed Bursary Fund exists and is operating in every community college within the Province, thus providing full exposure and equal opportunity for all. Our future rests with our youth and no better investment can we make in the future” says Melvyn Duke, Executive Secretary, Masonic Foundation of Ontario.

“When community organizations such as the Masons support our students, everybody wins”, said Dr. Ron Common, Sault College President. “The Masonic Foundation of Ontario is doing wonderful charitable work and we thank them wholeheartedly for their generous gift”.

About Sault College

The vision of Sault College is to provide a transformative life experience through empowering those who study with us to think and learn in progressive, innovative ways, including those we have not yet imagined. Ranked #1 in the province for two years in a row with a score of 88.6% in overall student satisfaction by students themselves, Sault College grants Ontario College certificates, diplomas, advanced diplomas, graduate certificates, and degrees to its graduates. The College is one of the largest deliverer of apprenticeship training in all of Northern Ontario. Educating over 3,900 students each year, Sault College has a significant economic impact on the community, with spin-offs in excess of \$158 million. The College offers over \$1.8 million dollars in scholarships, bursaries and awards that are distributed annually to students at the College. Located on the border to the United States and situated in the middle of three of the largest Great Lakes on the planet, Sault College is one of 24 publicly-funded colleges in the province of Ontario. Visit our website at www.saultcollege.ca to learn more.

About Sault College Financial Assistance

The Sault College Financial Assistance Office offers over \$1.8 million in Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards each year. This office administers the Ontario Student Assistance Program, Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards, and the Tuition Fee Bursary Program. Assistance is also offered to help those students who are experiencing difficulties in meeting their educational costs by offering a number of other financial assistance services including budget counseling for groups or individuals, high school OSAP workshops, classroom presentations, and seminars on debt repayment. Over 85% of Sault College students receive financial assistance including Entrance Awards, OSAP, Student Access Guarantee Bursaries, Student Financial Assistance Bursaries and Scholarships, Bursaries and Awards. <http://www.saultcollege.ca/services/FinancialAssistance/AllAwards.asp>

About the Masonic Foundation of Ontario

The Masonic Foundation of Ontario was formed in 1964 by a special Act of the Ontario Legislature to provide the means for using the Craft's financial resources for the benefit of the community at large. It is a public Foundation and is registered with the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. The objectives of the Foundation set out clearly its charitable nature:

- To receive, maintain, manage, control and use donations exclusively for charitable purposes within the Province of Ontario;
- To use its donations for the relief of poverty, the advancement of education, and the advancement of other purposes beneficial to the community;
- To fund bursaries, hearing research, drug and substance abuse education in the school systems and other specific and community projects that falls within its guidelines. Serving the Masons and People of Ontario: For the Cause of Good.

For more information please contact:



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